

**From:** [Eoc, Epahq](#)  
**To:** [Enders, Jhana](#)  
**Cc:** [Delgado, Eric](#); [Webster, Susan](#)  
**Subject:** Re: EOC Spot Report Update #1: Region 6, Chemical Release, DuPont La Porte, TX  
**Date:** Sunday, November 16, 2014 9:03:42 AM

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Thanks Jhana. For clarification.

Any additional detail on the LEPC planning situation would be appreciated.

Was the plan implemented, how was the community notified, etc.

Will note that plant followed SIP procedures.

Eugene Lee

Senior Watch Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
HQ Emergency Operations Center  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington D.C. 20004

24-Hour # 202.564.3850

On Nov 16, 2014, at 9:50 AM, "Enders, Jhana" <[Enders.Jhana@epa.gov](mailto:Enders.Jhana@epa.gov)> wrote:

R u asking if for safety to plant employees or community? Plant procedures...

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 16, 2014, at 8:35 AM, Delgado, Eric <[Delgado.Eric@epa.gov](mailto:Delgado.Eric@epa.gov)> wrote:

Jhana,  
HQ needs the following answered:

how did the shelter in place action materialize  
Was it due to guidance or local emergency  
preparedness?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eoc, Epahq" <[Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov](mailto:Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** November 16, 2014 at 08:17:38 CST  
**To:** "Delgado, Eric" <[Delgado.Eric@epa.gov](mailto:Delgado.Eric@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: EOC Spot Report Update #1: Region 6, Chemical Release, DuPont La Porte, TX

Eric,

See below questions from OEM mgmt.



9556953

Any additional info on the Shelter- in- place?

Thanks and good morning!

Eugene

Senior Watch Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
HQ Emergency Operations Center  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington D.C. 20004

24-Hour # 202.564.3850

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Woodyard, Josh"  
<[Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov](mailto:Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** November 16, 2014 at 8:30:43 AM EST  
**To:** "Cheatham, Reggie"  
<[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto:cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Tulis, Dana" <[Tulis.Dana@epa.gov](mailto:Tulis.Dana@epa.gov)> ,  
"Jennings, Kim" <[Jennings.Kim@epa.gov](mailto:Jennings.Kim@epa.gov)> ,  
"Matthiessen, Craig"  
<[Matthiessen.Craig@epa.gov](mailto:Matthiessen.Craig@epa.gov)> , "Eoc, Epahq"  
<[Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov](mailto:Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov)>  
**Subject: Re: EOC Spot Report Update #1:  
Region 6, Chemical Release, DuPont La  
Porte, TX**

We can reach out to the REOC and see if they have that information.

Joshua Woodyard, Acting Director  
Preparedness and Response Operations Division  
(PROD)  
Office of Emergency Management  
202-510-4306 cell  
202-564-9588 work  
Sent from my iPhone, please excuse typos

On Nov 16, 2014, at 7:23 AM, Cheatham, Reggie  
<[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto:cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)> wrote:

This has appeared in several news reports  
the one thing I think the front office is  
gonna wanna know is how did the shelter  
inplace action materialize Was it due to  
guidance or local emergency preparedness?  
This is been an ongoing theme with Mathy  
as you know

Thanks  
Reggie Cheatham, Acting Director  
Office of Emergency Management  
202-564-8003(w) 202-689-9400(c)

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**From:** [Woodyard, Josh](#)  
**Sent:** 11/16/2014 12:24 AM  
**To:** [Tulis, Dana](#)  
**Cc:** [Jennings, Kim](#); [Cheatham, Reggie](#);  
[Matthiessen, Craig](#)  
**Subject:** Re: EOC Spot Report Update #1:  
Region 6, Chemical Release, DuPont La  
Porte, TX

We still haven't seen anything from  
R6 yet but as I understand it, Carl  
has the package and is reviewing.

Joshua Woodyard, Acting Director  
Preparedness and Response  
Operations Division (PROD)  
Office of Emergency Management  
202-510-4306 cell  
202-564-9588 work  
Sent from my iPhone, please excuse  
typos

On Nov 15, 2014, at 10:24 PM, Tulis,  
Dana <[Tulis.Dana@epa.gov](mailto:Tulis.Dana@epa.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Kim, Josh was  
getting more info from the  
region, adding Josh in.

Dana S. Tulis  
Deputy Office Director  
Office of Emergency  
Management  
US EPA  
202-564-7938

On Nov 15, 2014, at 9:26  
PM, "Jennings, Kim"  
<[Jennings.Kim@epa.gov](mailto:Jennings.Kim@epa.gov)>  
wrote:

Just FYI, I know  
the report  
stated that the  
facility is an  
RMP facility, but  
I also wanted to

let you know  
that this  
chemical, Methyl  
Mercaptan is a  
regulated  
chemical under  
RMP. I don't  
know whether it  
meets our high  
risk facility  
criteria.

We should  
probably check  
with the Region  
to see what they  
know about the  
facility and  
whether it has  
been inspected  
recently.

Thanks,  
Kim

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**From:** Eoc, Epahq  
**Sent:** Saturday,  
November 15,  
2014 6:42 PM  
**To:** Eoc, Epahq  
**Subject:** EOC  
Spot Report  
Update #1:  
Region 6,  
Chemical Release,  
DuPont La Porte,  
TX

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**This report is  
being sent as a  
bcc to prevent  
accidental Reply  
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ONLY**

**EOC  
Spot  
Report  
Update**

**#1:  
Region 6,  
Chemical  
Release,  
DuPont  
La Porte,  
TX**

**US  
Environmental  
Protection  
Agency  
Report as of  
1830 EDT on  
11/15/2014**

**Overview:** On the morning of 11/15, due to unknown causes there was a release of methyl mercaptan to the air at the DuPont chemical plant in La Porte, TX. The release was reported to the NRC (report #1101100). The chemical release resulted in a shelter-in-place at the facility. The DuPont La Porte facility is an RMP facility. No explosion or fire has been reported with this incident. There are five reported casualties (4

dead and 1  
hospitalized).  
The company's  
LaPorte facility  
employs an  
estimated 320  
employees. A  
DuPont  
company  
spokesperson  
reported that a  
valve failed on a  
container of  
methyl  
mercaptan, a  
chemical used to  
make insecticide  
and an additive  
to natural gas.  
The DuPont  
spokesperson  
added that air  
quality tests  
outside of the  
facility came  
back normal and  
local emergency  
management  
officials decided  
not to issue a  
shelter-in-place  
for the general  
public.

**State, Local and  
other Federal  
Agency Actions:**

An emergency  
response team is  
in place and  
mutual aid is  
also responding.  
The Local  
Emergency  
Planning  
Committee

(LEPC) has been notified. USCG Sector Houston sent personnel to act as the First Federal Official until EPA personnel arrived on the scene. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) deployed personnel to assess the situation.

**EPA Actions:**

Upon notification of the spill, EPA Region 6 deployed an R6 OSC and START contractor support. The release is in EPA jurisdiction. EPA Region 6 will issue an update later in the day as more information on the release becomes available. HQ EOC will continue to monitor. An initial polrep has been issued for this incident.

**Media Interest:**

Moderate

<http://www.khou.com/story/news/local/2014/11/15/storage->

[leak-has-la-  
porte-in-a-  
stink/19085759/](#)

**The HQ EOC will  
continue to  
monitor and  
provided  
updates as  
needed.**

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ONLY**

Eugene Lee, Senior  
Watch Officer  
U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency  
Headquarters  
Emergency  
Operations Center  
1200 Pennsylvania  
Ave  
Washington, DC  
20004  
202-564-3850 202-  
564-8729 (fax)  
<mailto:eoc.epahq@epa.gov>